

# Do Your Job...

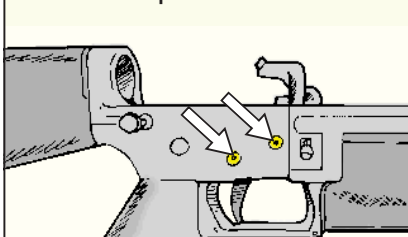
Your M16A2 rifle or M4A1 carbine is the best friend you'll have in battle. It will do its job to protect you if you do your PM job to protect it. But your job stops with the PMCS in TM 9-1005-319-10.

That's the problem. Some soldiers want to do more than their job. They want to do the armorer's job and sometimes even support's job. The results aren't pretty. For example...

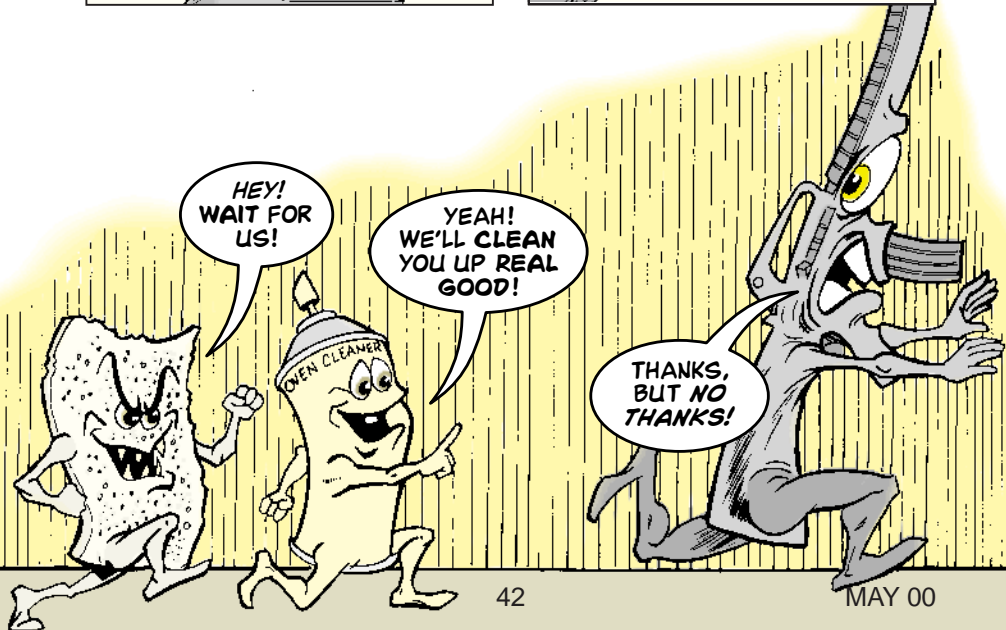
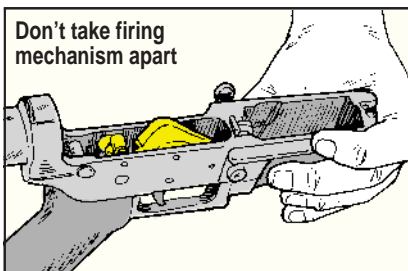
**Some soldiers disassemble the lower receiver and trigger assembly for better cleaning.**

If you continually push out the lower receiver pins, you enlarge the receiver holes. The holes can't hold the pins and the weapon is ruined. If the trigger assembly is put together wrong, the weapon fires automatic when it's not supposed to. That's dangerous.

Leave receiver pins alone



Don't take firing mechanism apart

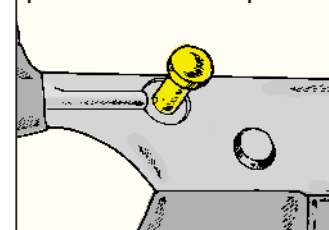


# but No More!

**Some soldiers remove the buttstock to clean the lower receiver extension.**

The takedown pin spring is easily damaged and difficult to install correctly. If the spring and detent are not put back in right, the takedown pin won't lock in and your weapon won't stay together. You could also loosen the lower receiver extension, which could let the buffer detent and spring pop free. That could cause your weapon to lock up.

Removing buttstock causes problems for takedown pin



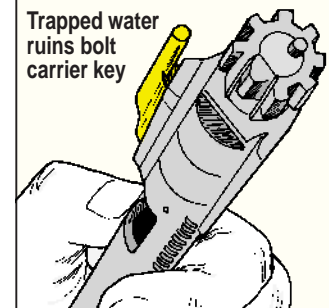
**Some soldiers remove the compensator to clean the barrel.**

The compensator must be torqued just right. If it's screwed on too tight, the barrel threads—and barrel—are ruined. If it's too loose, it can vibrate off.

**Some soldiers give their M16 or M4 a bath.**

Water trapped in tight places corrodes metal parts like the carrier key, forward assist spring, trigger spring, hammer spring and sear spring.

Trapped water ruins bolt carrier key



**Some soldiers use stuff like oven or toilet bowl cleaners or homemade cleaning tools on their weapon.**

These things will get your rifle or carbine wonderfully clean, but also take off its protective finish and ruin the barrel grooves. Soon your weapon is junk.

**Some soldiers take off the heat shields for cleaning.**

You'll never get them back on tight. They will rattle and have to be replaced.

If you take off heat shield...



...you'll never get it on tight again

The bottom line is that if you want to do your M16 or M4 a favor, do everything TM 9-1005-319-10 says to do, then STOP. If your weapon needs more attention, tell your armorer. He has the tools and training to either fix it or get it to support.

**ARMORERS, MAKE SURE EVERYONE IN YOUR UNIT SEES THIS ARTICLE. IT WILL SAVE TROUBLE DOWN THE ROAD.**

PS 570

